International PhD Academy

Quantitative Methods in Legal Studies

Venice International University
May 25 – 30, 2020

Faculty

- Kirill Titaev, European University at Saint Petersburg (Scientific Coordinator)
- Vadim Volkov, European University at Saint Petersburg
- Dmitry Skougarevsky, European University at Saint Petersburg
- Ronen Avraham, Tel Aviv University
- Tamar Kricheli Katz, Tel Aviv University
- Arthur Dyevre, KU Leuven
- Vladimir Kudryavtsev, European University at Saint Petersburg
- Alexey Knorre, European University at Saint Petersburg
- Monika Glavina, KU Leuven
- Timothy Yu Cheong Yeung, KU Leuven

Agenda

Monday, May 25, 2020

Day 1 – Training Workshop: Text and Data Mining | Arthur Dyevre, KU Leuven

The objective of this workshop is that participants learn basic concepts of text and data mining methods, including methods to scrape and analyze textual data, all using the open-source software R.

The first part of the workshop provides a gentle introduction to basic methods used in text analytics for a non-technical, legal audience. No mathematical background beyond high school is necessary as graphical and concrete legal examples will be used to illustrate the methods.
The second part introduces how to automate the large-scale extraction of information from webpages and how computer based content analysis—including word clouds, latent topic models and sentiment analysis—can be used to summarize and explore large collections of legal documents. With the knowledge gained in this workshop, participants will get a sense of the range of available methods to analyze textual legal data and will be ready to undertake their first own data analysis of legal documents.

9:00-9:30  Welcome Coffee & Registration
9:30-9:45  Opening & Introduction to the Course VIU & Scientific Coordinator
9:45-9:50  Participants’ Presentation Venice International University & Students
9:50-13:00 Training Workshop: Text and Data Mining
13:00-14:15 Lunch
14:30-17:30 Training Workshop: Text and Data Mining

Tuesday, May 26, 2020
Day 2 – Academic Roundtables

9:15-11:00 Comparative Sentencing Studies Vadim Volkov, EUSP
11:00-11:15 Break
11:15-13:00 Text-as-Data Approach Dmitry Skougarevskiy, EUSP
13:00-14:00 Lunch
14:00-14:45 Poster Session / Students’ Presentations
14:45-16:00 Behavior of Litigators in Commercial Dispute Resolution Kirill Titaev, EUSP
16:00-16:15 Break
16:15-17:30 Administrative Data and Quantitative Criminology Vladimir Kudryavtsev and Alexey Knorre, EUSP

Evening Social Dinner (tbc)
Wednesday, May 27, 2020
Day 3 – Workshop: Field Experiments | Tamar Kricheli Katz, TAU

9:15-10:45 Workshop “Field Experiments”
Tamar Kricheli Katz, TAU

10:45-11:00 Break

11:00-12:15 Workshop “Field Experiments”
Tamar Kricheli Katz, TAU

12:15-13:00 Poster Session / Students’ Presentations

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:30 Third Party Litigation Funding
Ronen Avraham, TAU (includes Q&A)

15:30-15:45 Break

15:45-17:30 Employment Discrimination in Israel
Tamar Kricheli Katz, TAU (includes Q&A)

Thursday, May 28, 2020
Day 4 – Academic Roundtables

9:15-11:00 Strategies to Increase the Relevance of Quantitative Research in Legal Scholarship and Legal Education

11:00-11:15 Break

11:15-13:00 Challenges to Publish Research that Applies Sophisticated and not yet Common Statistical Techniques

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-14:45 Poster Session / Students’ Presentations

14:45-16:00 Challenges to Publish Quantitative Research as a Lawyer: Caught between the Disapproval of Both Social Scientists and Legal Scholars

16:00-16:15 Break
16:15-17:30  Epistemological Issues Pertaining to the Application of Economics
(may include: influence of social constructs on individual behavior and meaning of behavioral economics for rational choice theory)

Day 5 – Friday, May 29, 2020
Decision-Making in Commercial Courts: From Querying Court API to Estimating Case Outcome Regressions | Dmitry Skougarevsky, EUSP

In this session we will build a pipeline in R that (a) obtains real-world data from a commercial court using its API, (b) organizes the case metadata into a flat table, (c) enriches the data with extraneous information, (d) estimates a case outcome regression on the constructed data. The students will learn the basics of accessing HTTP APIs programmatically and storing the data. Working with the obtained data on disposition of cases, students will then estimate regression models to uncover the determinants of observed case outcomes. The class will be hands-on with students understanding and executing pre-written procedures to obtain results on their local machines.

9:15-11:00  Decision-Making in Commercial Courts: From Querying Court API to Estimating Case Outcome Regressions

11:00-11:15  Break

11:15-13:00  Decision-Making in Commercial Courts: From Querying Court API to Estimating Case Outcome Regressions

13:00-14:00  Lunch

14:00-15:45  Decision-Making in Commercial Courts: From Querying Court API to Estimating Case Outcome Regressions

15:45-16:00  Break

16:00-17:30  Decision-Making in Commercial Courts: From Querying Court API to Estimating Case Outcome Regressions

Day 6 – Saturday, May 30, 2020
Academic discussion (All the Faculty)